Remarks

Claims 21-31 are submitted for reconsideration, with claims 21, 26, and 31 being the independent claims. Claims 21-31 are sought to be added. Claims 1-20 are sought to be cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute similar or broader claims, with respect to the cancelled claims, in the future.

Figure 3 as been amended to correct a typographical error.

No new matter has been entered by any amendments shown above.

Based on the above amendments and following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Information Disclosure Statement

An Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted for the Examiner's consideration citing a co-pending, co-owned application (U.S. Appl. No. 10/791,686, which published as U.S. Published Application No. 2005-0028220) that claims benefit to the instant application. Applicant requests that the Examiner consider and acknowledge consideration of this reference, and return an initialed IDS form to Applicant with the next PTO communication.

Claim objections

Claims 1, 10-11, and 20 were objected to by the Examiner. Although Applicant disagrees with these objections, Applicant has cancelled claims 1, 10-11, and 20 for other reasons, and in order to expedite prosecution. Based on the cancelling of these claims, Applicant believes these objections have been rendered moot.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Although Applicant disagrees with this rejection, claims 1-20 have been cancelled for other reasons, and in order to expedite prosecution. Accordingly, Applicant believes this rejection has been rendered moot.

New claims 21-29 have been carefully prepared in view of the Examiner's comments, 35 U.S.C. Section 101, and M.P.E.P Section 2106 IV.B.2(b), and are clearly directed to statutory subject matter as being directed to respective devices that process respective signals.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and 103(a)

Claims 1-2, 4, 6, 8, 10-12, 14, 16, 18, and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,002,726 to Simanapalli et al. ("Simanapalli"). Claims 3, 5, 7, 9, 13, 15, 17, and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Simanapalli in view of U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2003/0085993 to Trimbee et al. ("Trimbee"). Applicant traverses these rejections.

Although Applicant disagrees that the applied references either anticipated or rendered obvious the pending claims, claims 1-20 have been cancelled for other reasons, and in order to expedite prosecution. Accordingly, Applicant believes these rejections have been rendered moot.

New Claims 21-29

Claims 21-29 recite features that distinguish over the references applied to now cancelled claims 1-20. For example, claims 21, 24, and 29 recite specific respective combinations of devices that process specific respective signals, which features are not taught or suggested by the applied references.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicant believes that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Amendment to the Figures

Figure 3, element 300, has been amended to read denominator and not deminator.